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E.P.
7-11-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Sams et al. Examiner: Binda, G.

Serial Number: 08/996,249 Group Art Unit: 3629

Filed: 12/22/97

For: TRIPOD BEARING ASSEMBLY

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FILED WITH CONTINUED PROSECUTION

APPLICATION

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 6 - 9 with the following replacement paragraph:

Replacement paragraph (page 5, lines 6 - 9, clean version)

The non-bearing surface 30 of the trunion 20 comprises a cylinder. The engagement of this cylindrical trunion with the inner surface 44 of the bearing 40 prevents angular displacement therebetween.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims ~~1, 2, 4, 5~~ and ~~10 - 12~~ and add new claim 13 as follows:
follows:

Claim 13 (new)

Sub 01 > A tripod bearing assembly comprising:
a spider assembly having a trunion with a non-machined non-bearing cylindrical outer surface which radially projects therefrom,
a pre-assembled bearing assembly which is capable of being press fit onto said trunion

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